

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Bernd ADAM and Michael HAHN  
Int'l Application No.: PCT/DE2004/002121  
Application No.: NEW  
Filed: March 28, 2006  
For: DEVICE FOR DETECTING CONTACT WEAR IN  
SWITCHING APPLIANCES

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
(SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE  
FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)

Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
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March 28, 2006

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- ☐ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- ☒ This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should be forwarded from the International Search Authority. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

- ☒ Because the present application is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE

(check at least one box)

a. ☒ **DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Some of the attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. ☒ **DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

Many of the documents have been discussed in the PCT Search Report, the PCT Preliminary Examination Report, and/or throughout the specification. The PCT Search Report and PCT Preliminary Examination Report, along with a German translation aid translating key terms into English, indicate the degree of relevance found by the PCT Office, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3). German Patent Publication No. 4309177 corresponds to U.S. Patent Publication No. 5747984.

c. ☒ **ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT**

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

d. ☒ **OTHER**

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicants include a German translation aid for translating terminology in the PCT Search Report and Examination Report to thereby satisfy Applicant's requirement for an English language translation thereof.

e. ☐ **EQUIVALENCY DOCUMENTS**

FEES

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

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Enclosures: ☒ Form PTO-1449(s)  
☒ Documents  
☒ International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210)  
☒ Other: German Translation Aid

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	New Application	
			Filing Date	MARCH 29, 2006	
			First Named Inventor	Bernd Adam	
			Art Unit		
			Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	32860-001017/US

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	2	EP 0 462 197 B1	May 1, 1996	Karlsson, Stefan, Vikingstad		
	3	EP 1 022 904 A1	July 26, 2000	Siemens AG		X
	4	DE 197 27 986 A1	Feb. 04, 1999	Klöckner-Moeller GmbH, Bonn		X
	5	DE 43 09 177 A1	Sep. 29, 1994	Siemens AG		
					4	
	6	DE 101 09 952 A1	Sep. 5, 2002	Moeller GmbH, Bonn		X

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 35 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 35 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

**PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

32860-001017/US

**New Application**

APPLICANT

Bernd ADAM et al.

FILING DATE

GROUP

March 28, 2006

Unknown

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Class/ Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	
		International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210)

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.